

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

EUR

Info FROM: PARIS

RMR TO: Secretary of State

SS NO: POLTO 2389, FEBRUARY 24, 3 PM

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PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT POLTO 2389; REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON POLTO 641, BONN POLTO 411, BERLIN POLTO 46.

BRITISH HAVING INDICATED THIS MORNING THEIR AGREEMENT TO PROCEDURES DISCUSSED YESTERDAY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOUR AT 12 O'CLOCK TODAY SAW SPAAK. WE EXPLAINED TO HIM OUR DESIRE TO KEEP NAC INFORMED ON OUR THINKING WITH RESPECT TO THE GERMAN PROBLEM BUT EMPHASIZED ALSO OUR CONCERN ABOUT THE SENSITIVENESS OF THE INFORMATION. WE HANDED HIM THE AGREED TEXT IN FRENCH, POINTING OUT THAT THIS WAS A SUMMARY OF WORKING PAPERS NOT YET APPROVED BY GOVERNMENTS, BUT INDICATED THE GENERAL LINE OF THINKING OF THE GROUP. WE ALSO TOLD HIM THAT UNDER THE PRESENT TENTATIVE PLANS THE WORKING GROUP WOULD COME TO PARIS MARCH 9.

AT OUR SUGGESTION SPAAK AGREED THAT HE WOULD ASK FOR A MEETING OF PERMREPS ONLY, IN A SMALLER ROOM AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE REGULAR MEETING TOMORROW, AT WHICH THE PAPER IN FRENCH AND ENGLISH WOULD BE PASSED TO EACH PERMREP, AND HE WOULD EXPLAIN THE CHARACTER OF THE PAPER AND THE NEED FOR GUARDING IT CAREFULLY.

SPAAK RAISED QUESTION WHETHER THERE COULD THEN BE DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING, AND WE SAID THAT WHILE WE WERE ALWAYS READY TO ANSWER WHAT QUESTIONS WE COULD, THAT WE WERE REALLY NOT IN POSITION TO HAVE A WORTHWHILE DISCUSSION UNTIL AFTER THE MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP. HE SEEMED SATISFIED ON THIS POINT AND MADE THE SUGGESTION THAT AFTER

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-2- POLTO 2389, FEBRUARY 24, 3 PM, FROM PARIS.

THE WORKING GROUP WAS HERE, THEY WOULD HAVE SOMEBODY REPORT PERIODICALLY TO THE COUNCIL AS THEIR WORK PROGRESSSED, AS IN 1957.

SPAAK SAID THERE SEEMED TO BE NO PARTICULAR DEMAND FOR ACTIVATING THE COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN SECURITY BUT ON THE CONTRARY, THE DESIRE SEEMED TO BE TO HAVE THE WORKING GROUP REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE COUNCIL.

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